

To: Community Representatives

From: Janyce Hedetniemi, Director Office of Community Liaison National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Date: June 2002

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY LIAISON

n the April 24, 2002, issue of the *Bethesda Gazette*, the Community Forum was dedicated to a discussion of NIH and its plans to build a perimeter fence. Entitled "Valid Reasons for Fence," the article states that we at NIH have faced criticism from our neighbors for our plans to build a fence to better secure the campus from a terrorist attack. The article concludes with the position that the perimeter fence is a basic safety precaution that makes sense and urges residents who are protesting the fence to "respect the decision NIH officials must begrudgingly make, and take the long way around...."

NIH has actively engaged the community in its security planning discussions. At the October 2001 Community Liaison Council (CLC) meeting, Council members were told that a perimeter fence was being considered as a way to ensure safety for NIH's employees, facilities, patients, visitors, and neighbors. At subsequent meetings, we have provided the Council with as much detail as possible about this planning, given design and security constraints. At the April CLC meeting, NIH provided a thorough presentation on its proposed security plan—importantly, a presentation, no different from that made to NIH employees, management, and officials. There was lively dialogue with comments, suggestions, questions, and answers.

It was, therefore, a surprise to Council members when a letter was circulated characterizing the CLC and its role with NIH as one that does not "engage the community in a dialogue about how our respective needs can be met" and, as one that does not "provide a forum for this dialogue."

The CLC, which has worked with NIH for seven years, is comprised of over 40 citizen associations and liaison representatives. It ensures community comment at all levels of design, review, and implementation of NIH's Bethesda campus Master Plan. The Council has helped resolve some of the most difficult issues involving NIH and its community. Its members are articulate, informed, and engaged. To characterize their efforts as inadequate is a disservice. The CLC is totally voluntary, is critical to the NIH community relations program, and is recognized by NIH, the County, and the State as the organization for informed and contemporary community dialogue.

The perimeter fence will probably inconvenience some, but it will not deny residents reasonable pedestrian access to the Metro. To attempt to discredit the CLC and NIH because some people believe that they must be accommodated outside this process, does not serve the true interests of the many communities who support the Council and who view those who serve on it as their legitimate representatives.

The CLC will hold its next meeting on **Thursday**, **June 20**, at **4 p.m.**, in the Natcher Conference Center, Building 45, Conference Room D.

NIH CAMPUS NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

Greenberg Takes Over as NIGMS Acting Director

Judith H. Greenberg, Ph.D., took over as acting director of the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) last month, replacing former director Marvin Cassman, Ph.D. Former NIH Acting Director Ruth



Dr. Greenberg

Kirschstein, M.D., appointed Greenberg upon Cassman's departure last month, who left NIH to direct a California-based biomedical research company.

Greenberg is a developmental biologist who served as director of the NIGMS Division of Genetics and Developmental Biology for the past 14 years. Her work in human genetics research prepared her for several details with the NIH Office of the Director, including serving on the Panel to Assess the NIH Investment Research on Gene Therapy and establishing the NIH Human Embryonic Stem Cell Registry. In September of 2000, Greenberg's strong interest in ethical issues related to genetics led her to hold a community forum on the Responsible Collection and Use of Samples for Genetic Research. She also chaired an NIH working group on community consultation in genetic research.

Honors bestowed upon Greenberg include the 1991 Public Health Service Special Recognition Award and the 1999 Presidential Meritorious Executive Award. Greenberg received a bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1967, a master's degree from Boston University in 1970, and a doctorate degree from Bryn Mawr College in 1972.

Student Scientists Need Summer Housing

Each summer nearly 1,000 students from across the country come to NIH to train with its top scientists. Medical and dental students, undergraduates, and graduate students spend 6–10 weeks at NIH to participate in summer learning programs. Many of these students need a place to stay during this time. If you or someone you know can offer a room for rent, call the NIH Recreation and Welfare Association at 301-496-4600.

NIAID Director Wins Nation's Largest Financial Medicine Prize

Anthony Fauci, M.D., director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), recently received the nation's largest financial award in medicine—the \$500,000 Albany Medical Center Prize in Medicine and Biomedical Research—second only to the Nobel prize worldwide. At a ceremony in April, the New York-based medical center presented the award to Dr. Fauci for his contributions to disease research, to the advancement of science, and for his exceptional public service.

James J. Barba, Albany Medical Center Board chairman, president, and chief executive officer, summed up Dr. Fauci's contributions:

"Today we honor Dr. Fauci as one of the nation's leading physician-scientists, for his seminal contributions in helping researchers understand how the AIDS virus destroys the body's defenses, for his groundbreaking work in developing effective therapies for several once fatal rheumatic diseases, for his current efforts in spearheading the drive for vaccines to prevent the HIV virus, smallpox, anthrax, and the Ebola virus, and for his overall scientific leadership and public service."

The prize also recognizes Dr. Fauci's role as spokesperson following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, and the following anthrax mail attacks.

Medical center officials created the prize in 2000, following a \$50 million gift from a New York businessman and philanthropist, to encourage and recognize extraordinary and sustained contributions to improving health care and promoting biomedical research that improves patient care.



Dr. Fauci speaks at award ceremony.

NIH Wins Energy Conservation Awards

NIH received two of six possible conservation awards this year by the Department of Health and Human Services at its annual Energy and Water Management Awards ceremony.

Greg Leifer, an energy engineer with the NIH Division of Engineering Services, received the Individual Energy and Water Conservation Award for initiating and carrying out an alternative financing contract with Pepco to install variable frequency drives on motors that provide power to:

- fans and pumps,
- energy efficient lighting fixtures,
- water saving plumbing fixtures, and
- individual meters on chilled water, steam, electricity, and domestic water supplies.

Through Leifer's effort, NIH could save approximately \$125,000 each year in energy and water costs.

A team of employees from the NIH Office of Research Services received the "You Have the Power" Campaign Energy Award for providing economically feasible and high-performance energy-saving features in Building 50 on the NIH campus. These conservation measures include:

- using desiccant energy recovery wheels,
- variable air volume systems,
- variable frequency drive motors,
- programmable high efficiency lighting systems,
- occupancy sensors, and
- efficient water fixtures.

By including these energy-saving measures, the building will use less than half the energy of a similar laboratory building. Congratulations to all those who participated!

NIAAA Warns of the Dangers of Drinking

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) is working hard to educate the public about the dangers and risks of drinking alcohol. This spring the Institute launched a pilot program that encourages pregnant women

not to drink and developed a Web site aimed to reduce college drinking.

In March, NIAAA and the National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS) joined local Washington celebrities to launch a campaign in the city to raise awareness on drinking during pregnancy—the leading known preventable cause of birth defects and learning difficulties. The new slogan, "Play it smart. Alcohol and pregnancy don't mix," is part of the campaign which begins a two-year pilot program that targets Washington, DC, African-American women of childbearing age. After NIAAA assesses the campaign's results, sponsors of the program hope to extend it to other communities nationwide.

College-average drinkers are the focus of a new NIAA Web site (http://www.collegedrinking prevention.gov). The Web site, devoted to educating the public about the dangers of college drinking, offers research-based information and educational materials to parents, students, teachers, community leaders, and the media. The site also provides facts about college-drinking consequences, links to related organizations and research, frequently asked questions, reports and brochures, and information about college alcohol policies across the country. NIAAA officials developed the site as a way to reduce the statistics discovered by an NIAA task force study: drinking by college students contributes to approximately 1,400 deaths, 500,000 injuries, and 70,000 cases of sexual assault or date rape each year.

NIH R&W Offers Discounted Tickets for Summer Events

Don't miss your chance to get discounted tickets to some of summer's upcoming sporting events. As a member of the NIH Recreation and Welfare Association (R&W), you can take advantage of these and other tickets. Membership is only \$7 and is open to anyone associated with NIH. Some of R&W's current offerings include discounts for baseball games, soccer games, and amusement parks. Call 301-496-4600 or visit http://www.recgov.org/r&w/r&w.html for more information.

NIH Alumni Present Former NIH Director with Public Service Award

On the first of the month, the NIH Alumni Association (NIHAA) will present former NIH Director Donald S. Fredrickson, M.D., with its 2002 Public Service Award. Dr. Fredrickson, who served as NIH director from 1975-1981, is being honored with the award for his close and long-time affiliation with NIH and for his international Dr. Fredrickson public service. William F. Raub,



Ph.D., deputy assistant secretary of science policy of the Department of Health and Human Services, and former NIH official will serve as the featured speaker during the awards ceremony. NIHAA directors also developed a new award to give to a current NIH individual who has made significant and outstanding contributions to NIH. Former NIH Acting Director Ruth Kirschstein, M.D., is the first recipient of this award. Both awards will be presented at the NIHAA's annual meeting beginning at 10 a.m.

NIHAA Offers Volunteer Opportunities

The NIH Alumni Association (NIHAA) is launching a volunteer program this year to provide NIH alumni and soon-to-be retired NIHers with meaningful volunteer opportunities. NIHAA compiled a directory of volunteer opportunities of specific interest to alumni, including opportunities at the Children's Inn at NIH and in the Montgomery County Public School System. Other opportunities include:

- NIHAA or NIH speaker's bureau,
- Language interpreter for the Clinical Center,
- Mercury education for the NIH Environmental Protection Branch (training provided),
- Visitor tours, and
- Science fairs and other events with the Office of Education.

To find out how you can give back to your community with rewarding volunteer work, call

Maggie Heydrick at 301-663-6043 or visit http://www.fnih.org and click on NIH Alumni Association. Interested volunteers can complete the online form to participate.

NIH CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

General Motors Cancer Research Foundation 2002 Annual Scientific Conference on "New Directions in Cancer Treatment," 8:15 a.m.-4:10 p.m. and 8:45 a.m.-1 p.m., respectively, Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, continuing medical education (CME) credit available. Call 1-919-668-8018 or visit http://www4.od.nih.gov/gmcrf for more information.

2001-2002 NIH Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series: Laureates Lectures for the Kettering, Sloan, and Mott Prizes for Cancer Research, 1-3 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. CME credit available. Call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm for more information.

Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH) 2002 Women's Health Seminar Series: Women's Health Research for the 21st Century: Promoting Healthy Lives: Diet, Fat, and Cholesterol, Seminar 1, 1–3:30 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call 301-402-1770 for more information.

Evidence in Science and in Law: The Case of Cerebral Palsy by J. Rosser Matthews, De Witt Stetten, Jr., Museum of Medical Research and NIH History Office, 12:30-2 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH campus. Call Ingrid Farreras at 301-496-3118 for more information.

Chamber Music Groups of the NIH Chamber Orchestra: Music by Schubert and Poulenc, 7 p.m., Kensington Library, 4201 Knowles Avenue, Kensington. Call Gary Daum at 301-214-1216 for more information or visit http://www. gprep.org/~music/nih.

2001-2002 NIH Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series (Special Tuesday Lecture): Protein Transport In and Out of the ER by Tom Rapoport, Ph.D., Harvard Medical School, 3-4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. CME credit available. Call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 for more information.

June 12

2001-2002 NIH Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series (Special Double Lecture): Molecular Biology of Memory and Its Disorders: Some Societal Implications by Eric R. Kandel, M.D., Columbia University, and The Neurobiology of Slow Synaptic Transmission by Paul Greengard, Ph.D., The Rockefeller University, 2:30-4:30 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. CME credit available. Call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595.

2001–2002 Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series: Beta-Arrestins: Traffic Cops of Cell Signaling by Robert J. Lefkowitz, M.D., Duke University Medical Center, 3–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. CME credit available. Call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit http://www1.od.nih.gov/ wals/schedule.htm for more information.

2002 National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) Human Genome Lecture Series: White and African Genetic Explanations for Gender, Class, and Race Differences by Toby Jayaratne, Ph.D., Institute for Research on Women and Gender, University of Michigan, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call Geoff Spencer at 301-402-0911 for more information.

2001–2002 Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series: Halving Premature Death by Sir Richard Peto, F.R.S., University of Oxford, 3-4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. CME credit available. Call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 for more information.

NIH Mobile Mammography Screening by the George Washington University Breast Care Center, 9:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m., visitor parking lot behind Rockledge One, 6700 Democracy Boulevard., Bethesda. Call 202-994-9999 to make an appointment or for more information.

*Call to confirm your event.

OTHER NEWS AND ACTIVITIES **OF INTEREST**

Bethesda Offers Free Summer Concerts

The streets of Bethesda come alive with local music this summer during the city's free outdoor music series. Now through August, Bethesda is featuring a diverse mix of music, including jazz,



rock, blues, new age, world beat, and more on Thursdays, Fridays, and Sundays! Enjoy live music on Thursdays from noon to 2 p.m. at Bethesda Place (the plaza behind the corner of Old Georgetown Road and Woodmont Avenue). Spend a Sunday having brunch with music at Bethesda Row (corner of Bethesda and Woodmont Avenues) from noon until 2 p.m. Jump-start your weekend on Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m. at Veteran's Park (corner of Woodmont and Norfolk Avenues) with rock, jazz, and rhythm and blues. Bring out your dancing shoes on Fridays from 6 to 8 p.m. for cool summer tunes at Bethesda Row. For a detailed concert schedule and brochure, call the Bethesda Urban Partnership at 301-215-6660 or visit http://www.bethesda.org.

Free Thermometers for Mercury Trade-Ins

In light of the recent mercury exposure in Gaithersburg, Maryland, Montgomery County officials are offering free digital thermometers for every mercury thermometer traded in, while supplies last. Improper disposal of some household products can harm the environment. Instead of putting these materials in the garbage or pouring them down the drain, bring them to one of the county's scheduled household hazardous waste drop-offs. The Montgomery County Division of Solid Waste Services safely collects household hazardous waste at collection sites throughout the county. Upcoming collection dates and locations are listed below. Residents may drop off any mercury-containing items or other hazardous items, such as insecticides, fertilizers, paint thinners, pool chemicals, car batteries, and used motor oil between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. For a complete listing of acceptable and unacceptable materials, visit http://solidwaste.dpwt.com/wastereduction/hhw. htm or call 240-777-6410.

Sunday, June 2

Shady Grove Solid Waste Transfer Station 16101 Frederick Road • Derwood, Maryland

Saturday, June 22

Bethesda, Westland Middle School 5411 Massachusetts Avenue • Bethesda, Maryland

10 Years of Summer Sounds in the Park

This year marks the tenth anniversary of Montgomery County's Summer Sounds in the Park annual concert series. Beginning June 30 and continuing through the end of August, a variety of live entertainment is featured in many of the county's regional parks. Concerts begin at 7 p.m. So bring a picnic and enjoy free outdoor musical entertainment compliments of the Montgomery County Department of Recreation, the *Journal* newspapers, and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. A complete schedule of events and locations is available at http://www.co.mo.md.us//services/rec/SumCon.html. Call 240-777-6821 for more information and rain cancellations.

Silver Spring Swings into Summer with Free Music and Movies

The city of Silver Spring has big plans for summer! Beginning June 13, community members can enjoy free outdoor concerts every Thursday night at 7 p.m. through August 15. World beat, oldies, rhythm and blues, salsa, and Zydeco music are all featured at the corner of Georgia Avenue and Ellsworth Drive. The festivities begin as early as 6:30 p.m. with food, clowns, prizes, and face painting, so bring a blanket or chair and enjoy the evening. As an added treat, the city will hold an outdoor film festival from July 18–21 beginning at dusk in the same location. The concert schedule is as follows:

Jambulay, Carribean world beat
The Fabulous Bel Airs, oldies from the '50s and '60s
Jimi Smooth and Hittime, R&B
Alex Fox and Liza, Argentine/Latin
<i>The Blues Blasters and Bruce Ewan,</i> Spanish/Portuguese blues
Carey Ziegler's Expensive Hobby, Top 10 covers
Combo Ocho, salsa
Sean Ardoin and Zydekool, Zydeco

For more information or a concert brochure, call 301-565-7300.

Local Independence Day Festivities Set

If you enjoy Independence Day fireworks, why not go to the celebration that suits you best? Several celebrations are planned in the area and some are scheduled for different dates. Here is a sampling of some of the festivities:

Wheaton Sparkles

Residents of Wheaton can enjoy a full evening of activity on July 4 beginning at 6:30 p.m. This Independence Day celebration features fireworks, live music, food, children's activities, and more. The Midnight Movers, formerly Wilson Pickett's back-up band, performs two concerts at 7:30 and 8:30 p.m. Festivities take place at the intersection of Grand-view Avenue and Reedie Drive. The rain date for the fireworks is Friday, July 5 at 9:30 p.m. For more information, visit http://www.co.mo.md.us//services/rec/WtnSpkls.html or call 240-777-8122.

Rockville's Big Bang

Rockville residents can enjoy an evening of patriotism with entertainment, fireworks, and live music on Thursday, July 4. Performances by the Rockville Concert Band, the Dixie Rascals, and Kevin Kline start the evening beginning at 6:30 p.m. At dusk, an extravagant display of fireworks lights up the sky. This celebration takes place in the Richard Montgomery High School Stadium. For more information, call 301-309-3330 or visit http://www.ci.rockville.md.us.

Gaithersburg Explodes

Enjoy a family concert and fireworks at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds in Gaithersburg on July 4 from 6 to 10 p.m. Call 301-258-6310 for more information.

Star-Spangled Symphony Spectacular

Join the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra for an all-American celebration on the grounds of Lockheed Martin, 22300 Comsat Drive, in Clarksburg. On July 6 at 8 p.m., Associate Conductor Lara Webber leads the orchestra in some of the nation's favorite patriotic songs followed by a fireworks display. The grounds open at 5 p.m. For more information, visit http://www.co.mo.md.us/rec/bso.html.

Montgomery County Celebrates History

Looking for a fun way to teach your children about history? Now is your chance. History will come alive on June 23 as Clara Barton, played by Mary Ann Jung, will be on hand in Glen Echo to show visitors what it was like as first president of the American Red Cross. She will be at the Clara Barton National Historic Site in Glen Echo at 1 p.m., representing the authentic attitude, dress, and accent of the time. For more information, call 301-492-6245.

This is one of many planned special activities this month offered throughout the county at various historic sites. On June 29 and 30 from noon to 4 p.m., more than 25 historic sites will offer special tours, activities, exhibits, and more during the fifth annual Montgomery County History Tour. Learn about the county's rich cultural past and join in activities such as making ice cream, creating grave rubbings, and listening to gospel music. All activities are free and brochures listing tour details are available at local libraries. For more information, call 301-762-1492 or 301-340-2825 or visit http://www.montgomeryhistory.org/HistoryTour.htm.

Strathmore Presents Theater for Kids

Once again, Strathmore Hall Arts Center is bringing back its popular summer backyard theater program for children. Beginning June 27, families can enjoy six Thursdays of live music, theater, and dance programs. Jugglers, Irish folk dancing, funny sing-alongs, and high energy dancing are just a few of the scheduled events. Performances are held at 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. and cost \$6 per person. A tentative schedule is listed below. Children age two and under are free. Strathmore is located at 10701 Rockville Pike in North Bethesda. For more information, call 301-530-0540.

- June 27 Gizmo Guys, world-class juggling
- **July 4** A Celtic Celebration for America, Irish stepdancing
- **July 11** *Billy B.,* the Natural Science Song and Dance Man
- July 18
 Barbara Martin, American singer/songwriter
- July 25 Wild Zappers, deaf dance performance company
- August 1 Pied Piper of Potomac, flutist Chris Norman

Bethesda Holds Grand Prix of Cycling

If you missed the Tour de France and still want to see a great bike race, come out to downtown Bethesda on Sunday, June 16 for the fifth annual Snow Valley Grand Prix of Bethesda. Cyclists from all over will compete in an all-day bike race in the Woodmont Triangle for \$5,000 and other cash prizes. The race, which features women's, men's, and children's races, starts and finishes at St. Elmo and Norfolk Avenues. Registration opens at 7 a.m. and closes 15 minutes prior to each race. The first race begins at 8:30 a.m. rain or shine. Participants can register online at http://www.activeusa.com or call 410-480-1953 for more information. Spectators can call the Bethesda Urban Partnership at 301-215-6660.

International Festival Planned

Celebrate a diversity of culture right here within Montgomery County during its annual International Festival on Sunday, June 9, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Located in the heart of Wheaton at Elkin, Price, and Fern Streets, the festival features cultural crafts, music, entertainment, international delicacies, unique gifts, children's events, and more. A parade, which begins at Fern Street and Amherst Avenue, kicks off the festival at 11 a.m. For more information, call 240-777-6821 or visit http://www.co.mo.md.us//services/rec/int.html.

TRY THIS WEB SITE: http://www.mercuryinschools.uwex.edu/index.htm

Educators and environmentalists will enjoy visiting this new Web site, dedicated to educating the public about the dangers of mercury. Focusing specifically on schools, this Web site provides information on mercury in schools and homes, how to take action to remove mercury, tools for educators, and a map of the United States which illustrates regional mercury information. The site provides valuable information on identifying mercury-containing items commonly found in homes and schools, ways to properly dispose of these items, what to do if you have a spill, and research-based information on regional fish consumption advisories. Curriculum materials are also available for schools to implement their own mercury-free campaign.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

NIAAA Seeks Healthy Families

The National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) is looking for parents and their healthy adolescent children, age 12–17, to participate in a study involving an interview and a brain scan. No medication is involved, and compensation is provided. For more information, call 301-594-9950.

Women Needed for Bone Density Study

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development seeks Hispanic or Caucasian women between the ages of 18 and 32 to participate in a research study comparing bone density. Volunteers can not be pregnant, nursing, or planning a pregnancy in the next 3 years. They also can not be taking oral contraceptives or other prescribed

medications, smoke more than two cigarettes a day, or drink more than two alcoholic drinks a day. Participation involves four visits over a 3-year period, a blood test, bone density and urine tests, and cognitive testing. Compensation is provided. Call 301-435-7926 for more information.

Study on Premature Ovarian Failure

NIH seeks volunteers for a variety of studies on premature ovarian failure. Women between the ages of 18 and 42 are eligible to participate. Call 1-800-411-1222 (TTY users call 1-866-411-1010) for more information.

Children's Weight Loss Study

Doctors at NIH are currently enrolling overweight children ages 6 to 17 in two new weight loss studies. Participation is free. Call 1-800-411-1222 (TTY users call 1-866-411-1010) for more information.

The OCL Update is available on our Web site at http://ocl.od.nih.gov. If you would rather view this document online and not receive a printed version, please contact the OCL office at 301-496-3931 or send us an e-mail at jh69z@nih.gov. If you would like to list an upcoming event of interest to the local community, call Terry LaMotte at Palladian Partners, OCL support contractor, at 301-650-8660, or e-mail at tlamotte@palladianpartners.com.

Office of Community Liaison

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